

House Resolution No. 2272

Whereas, from time to time the members of the Missouri House of Representatives are called upon to recognize the meritorious endeavors of outstanding Missourians, a task which this legislative body embraces with great enthusiasm; and

Whereas, Gary Thomas of Rolla, Missouri, will retire from his position as Chancellor with the University of Missouri-Rolla on August 31, 2005, following five years of steadfast and admirable service; and

Whereas, as chancellor of the University of Missouri-Rolla, Gary Thomas oversees all academic and administrative operations of the five thousand-student campus; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Gary Thomas, the University of Missouri-Rolla has broadened its academic offerings, doubled its externally funded research expenditures, experienced a strong enrollment growth, expanded the graduation rates by fifteen percent, and increased the number of African-Americans who have earned an engineering degree; and

Whereas, prior to assuming his responsibilities as Chancellor of the University of Missouri-Rolla, Gary Thomas served as Provost and Professor of electrical engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology for ten years; and

Whereas, Gary Thomas has also enjoyed recognition by conducting extensive research to support his projects, writing and co-editing the Fundamentals Handbook of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and serving on several prestigious boards and in several academic and administrative posts at the State University of New York at Stony Brook; and

Whereas, Gary Thomas has been blessed with the love and support of a wonderful family whose members include his wife, Barbara Tedesco, Associate Dean of the School of Management at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; and three children:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously in expressing deep gratitude for the superb service that Gary Thomas has rendered to the University of Missouri-Rolla during the past five years and in wishing him ample opportunity to enjoy the better things life has to offer; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for Chancellor Gary Thomas.

Offered by _____
Representative James O. Guest
District No. 5

Representative Ed Emery
District No. 126

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2272, adopted April 18, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker